

southern Maryland community for decades to come. Pat Collins was a giant who was successful in life, but who never forgot his roots and always gave back to his community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great American who leaves behind a loving family and many admirers who will miss him greatly.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "MERIT SYSTEM PROTECTION BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACT OF 2001"

**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the "Merit Systems Protection Board Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 2001." Support for ADR enjoys a rare consensus among those knowledgeable with formal litigation and administrative dispute processes. Resulting savings redound to the benefit of those involved and more broadly, to the taxpayers at large.

The MSPB is an independent adjudicatory body that hears appeals from Federal agency personnel disputes. MSPB judges hear a broad range of complex cases that affect thousands of Federal employees and the agencies for which they work. Over the last decade, MSPB judges have seen their jurisdiction steadily increase without a corresponding increase in resources. Last year, the Board handled nearly 8,000 cases with a staff of only 71 administrative judges. This bill would help reduce this caseload by establishing a pilot, three year early intervention ADR program at the Board. A chief strength of the program is that it makes ADR available to parties before their positions harden in preparation for formal litigation before the Board.

Until 1990, MSPB judges received compensation equivalent to that provided Immigration, Social Security and Administrative Law Judges. Since 1990, however, the wage disparity between MSPB judges and other administrative judges has detrimentally affected the Board's ability to attract and retain top judges. Over the last four years alone, the Board has lost nearly 20 percent of its judges to other adjudicatory agencies.

The Conference Report to the 1999 Omnibus Appropriations Act recognized the need to accord pay equity to MSPB, Immigration, and Administrative Law Judges. Last year, I introduced, and the House passed legislation to address this recognized inequality. Like the previous legislation, the current bill restores a measure of fairness to MSPB judge compensation vis-a-vis Immigration, Social Security and Administrative Law Judges.

Passage of the MSPB Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 2001 will combat debilitating MSPB attrition rates and reduce costs to taxpayers by ensuring the success of the early intervention ADR program. Support for ADR is broad and its benefits are clear, and I urge prompt passage of the bill.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE KEIL

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying well-deserved tribute to Joyce Keil, the Founder and Artistic Director of the nationally acclaimed Ragazzi: The Peninsula Boys Chorus.

Under Ms. Keil's leadership Ragazzi has grown since its inception in 1987 into an internationally renowned chorus, successful in both live and recorded performance. Popular with audiences throughout the Bay Area and beyond, Ragazzi has its own concert series and also performs regularly with the San Francisco Opera, the San Francisco Symphony and numerous other outstanding musical groups. Ragazzi concerts are eagerly anticipated by its devoted and ever widening audience of music lovers, who are constantly thrilled by Ms. Keil's superb direction.

Mr. Speaker, Joyce Keil's extraordinary musical artistry is evident in Ragazzi's repertoire of selections from a variety of different cultures sung in many different languages and dialects. Ragazzi is about to embark on a celebrated fifth international tour where the chorus will travel to the British Isles in order to perform in England and Wales. This tour will include the participation of the chorus in the prestigious Llangollen International Musical Festival in Wales.

Ragazzi; The Peninsula Boys Chorus has also performed in Canada, Russia, Eastern Europe, Japan and in the Basilica of San Marco in Venice and St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Joyce Keil has enriched the lives of over 450 boys and young men, who since the inception of this group have sung and been educated in vocal technique, music theory and performance skills in training for Ragazzi and its laureate program, Ragazzi: Young Men's Ensemble.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Keil's preeminence in the music world is demonstrated in her numerous appearances as a guest conductor, adjudicator and panelist for choirs and music teachers throughout the Western United States. She has been nationally recognized for her music program at Lick-Wilmerding High School in San Francisco. The Lick-Wilmerding Choruses received the gold medal in the 1998 Heritage Music Festival and captured second place in the 1997 Prague International Choral Festival.

Ms. Keil has served as Western Division Chair of the Boychoir Committee for the American Advanced Placement Music Exams. Formerly on the faculty of Holy Names College, Ms. Keil has also been a faculty member of the College of Notre Dame. Joyce Keil has often expressed her firm belief that choral music educates the whole person. She has made an outstanding contribution to the academic enrichment of hundreds of students fortunate enough to enjoy her tutelage.

Mr. Speaker, the Hillbarn Theatre is honoring Joyce Keil with its prestigious 2001 BRAVO! Award. I join the Hillbarn Theatre and urge all of my colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Keil's exceptional talent, generosity and commitment to our community. I also want to wish Ragazzi: The Peninsula Boys Chorus and Ms. Keil many more years

of richly deserved success and artistic fulfillment.

A SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MR. FRED FABRIZIO ON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding individual from the State of Ohio. Mr. Fred Fabrizio, a physical therapist, is celebrating 39 years of distinguished service to his community in Tiffin and throughout Ohio.

Mr. Fabrizio, originally a Youngstown native, attended Heidelberg College in Tiffin prior to entering The Ohio State University, College of Physical Therapy. After graduating in 1962, he and his wife, Carmella moved to Peoria, IL. After only a short year they moved back to the town where they first met and fell in love.

Over a small kitchen table at home on Coe Street, Fred made a very important decision to partner with Pat Theriault, PT. After seven years of hard work, perseverance and success, Fred and Pat formed P.T. Services Inc. Since 1972 P.T. Services has grown to provide rehabilitation services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, aquatic therapy, corporate wellness and athletic training throughout the State of Ohio. Their dedication to their patients is an example for all healthcare professionals across the country.

Mr. Fabrizio has utilized this strong work ethic and dedication in his personal life. He is an avid runner, swimmer and bicyclist. He has competed and finished the prestigious Hawaiian Ironman Triathlon twice. He has also competed in America's top cross country ski race, the Birkebeiner, over 10 times. At present, Mr. Fabrizio is training for a 100-mile ultra-marathon in Leadville, CO.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fabrizio's dedication and service have earned him the highest regard for his character as a husband to his charming and dedicated wife, Kathy, father, grandfather, and physical therapist. At this time I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Fabrizio and his family all the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

MEMORIAL DAY 2001: COURAGE AND HEARTACHE

**HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 23, 2001*

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, for millions of Americans, this weekend's Memorial Day observance carries deep and personal significance. For two residents of southeastern Massachusetts, Lucy Duffy and Jim Cadigan, the solemn occasion will echo with courage and heartache, seared with the pain and pride of sacrifice on behalf of a grateful Nation.

HEADING THE CALL

When young Americans heeded President Woodrow Wilson's call to arms, one of those who crossed the Atlantic in the name of freedom was Sgt. Charles De Vries, an Army